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\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

July 25, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Art Unit 1652**

**Attn: Mail Stop Amendment**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/661,819; Filed: September 15, 2003  
For: **Thermostable Reverse Transcriptases and Uses Thereof**  
Inventors: SMITH *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.5040003/RWE/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$2160.00 to cover Extension of time within the fifth month;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(5);
3. Petition for Extension of Time to Respond to Office Action Mailed January 25, 2006; and
4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
July 25, 2006  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey K. Mills  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 56,413

JKM/tdd  
Enclosures

561282\_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
SMITH *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/661,819

Filed: September 15, 2003

For: **THERMOSTABLE REVERSE  
TRANSCRIPTASE AND USES  
THEREOF**

Confirmation No.: 7510

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, Richard G.

Atty. Docket: 0942.5040003/RWE/JKM

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO RESPOND TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 25, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

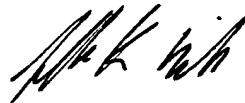
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 (a), Applicants have filed herewith a petition for an extension of time of 5 months, up to and including July 25, 2006. The \$2,160.00, 5-month extension fee (large entity) is provided for in the accompanying credit card form.

The reason for this Petition is to provide co-pendency between the present application and a continuation application filed this same day.

If the payment is inadvertently omitted, or if the payment is insufficient, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.18 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.K. Mills', is written over the printed name.

Jeffrey K. Mills  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 56,413

Date: July 25, 2006

IVGN EOT pleading.DOC